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rectangular parallelepiped and having a shaft or a bearing, said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and said shaft or said bearing being provided so as not to protrude from said rectangular parallelepiped;

(c) a holding member adapted to hold said image sensor unit; and

(d) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the image of the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member.

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12. An image reader according to Claim 11, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit towards said transparent plate.

13. An image reader according to Claim 11, wherein said housing further comprises a hole adapted to mount thereto a spacer for maintaining a distance between said transparent plate and image sensor unit.

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14. An image reader according to Claim 11, wherein said housing has integrally formed therewith a spacer adapted to maintain a distance between said transparent and said image sensor unit.

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15. An image sensor unit mounted in an image reader, comprising:
a light source adapted to illuminate an original;
a reading element adapted to read an image of the original; and
a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing having a hole adapted to mount thereto a spacer for maintaining a distance between an original-holding plate of the image reader and said image sensor unit.

16. An image reading apparatus mounting said image sensor unit according to Claim 15, further comprising a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the image of the original and said image sensor unit.

17. An image reader, comprising:

- (a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;
- (b) an image sensor unit including:
 - (i) a light source adapted to illuminate the original;
 - (ii) a reading element adapted to read an image of the original;

and

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(iii) a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, wherein said housing has a recess on a side which faces said transparent plate,

(c) a slider engaged in said recess and adapted to contact said transparent plate;

(d) a holding member adapted to hold said image sensor unit; and

(e) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the image of the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member sliding along said transparent plate.

18. An image reader according to Claim 17, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit toward said transparent plate.

19. An image reader according to Claim 17, wherein said housing has a shaft or a bearing arranged so as to be parallel to said reading element.